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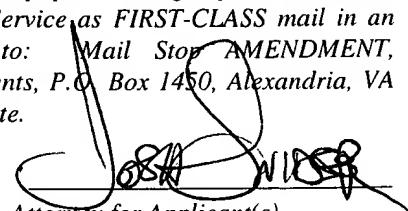
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Application of: )  
Applicant(s): Taguchi et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/753,427 )  
Conf. No.: 1173 )  
Filed: January 3, 2001 )  
For: INFORMATION PROCESSING )  
APPARATUS )  
Art Unit: 2142 )  
Examiner: Prieto, Beatriz )

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

November 8, 2004  
Date

  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Registration No. 47,954

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 22, 2004, please amend the above-identified Application as follows: